

CELEBRATING PRESIDENT LEE'S
FIRST YEAR AS PRESIDENT OF
THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA

HON. THOMAS J. MANTON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 1997

Mr. MANTON. Mr. Speaker, 1 year ago this week the 2 million people of Taiwan went to the polls to participate in the first direct election of a President for the Republic of China. Voter turnout was high despite the attempts by the People's Republic of China to intimidate the electorate by conducting military exercises in the Taiwan Straits.

The voters of Taiwan overwhelmingly elected Lee Teng-Hui as President of the ROC. President Lee defeated three other candidates in a free and fair election. In doing so, President Lee became the first popular elected head of state in Chinese history. His election was the culmination of a 10-year period of democratization for the Republic of China. Today, the ROC is a full-fledged democracy with a strong, multiparty system. Government officials from the President to members of the local legislatures are all selected by the people of Taiwan.

Mr. Speaker, this week also marks the 1-year anniversary of the selection by President Lee of John Chang as the Republic of China's Foreign Minister. Under Mr. Chang's leadership, the already excellent relationship between the United States and Republic of China has grown even stronger. During the past year, many members of this body have traveled to Taiwan to see firsthand Taiwan's impressive economic growth. Furthermore, many senior ROC Government officials have visited the United States and have met with Members of Congress and other United States officials. All of this activity is a tribute to Foreign Minister Chang.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to note that nearly 1 year has passed since Jason Hu assumed the post of Taipei's Economic and Cultural Representative in Washington. The Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative's office serves as the unofficial embassy in the United States, and Ambassador Hu, who previously served as President Lee's spokesman and a member of the Legislative Yuan, has done a very good job promoting a dialog between Congress and the people of Taiwan. He has worked tirelessly to visit with Members of this body and to inform Members of the current activities in Taiwan. Representative Hu, like Foreign Minister Chang, is proof that President Lee has made many fine choices in filling the senior appointed positions of his government. I am certain with President Lee's leadership, our relationship with the ROC will continue to be on a steady and even keel in the years ahead.

INTRODUCTION OF THE OLDER
AMERICANS ACT AMENDMENTS
OF 1997

HON. MATTHEW G. MARTINEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 1997

Mr. MARTINEZ. Mr. Speaker, for more than three decades, the Older Americans Act has

been providing our Nation's seniors with the services that help them enjoy security, health, and independence. Therefore, it is with great pleasure that I introduce the Older Americans Act Amendments of 1997, which will update this statute for the 21st century and beyond.

The majority of this legislation is based upon the administration's proposal for reauthorization of the Older Americans Act which I introduced during the 104th Congress. It includes provisions that grant flexibility to States, area agencies on aging, and providers which will foster new and creative ways to design and administer services for the elderly. This measure also allows for the expansion of cooperative partnerships for the identification of local needs and delivery of comprehensive services. Most importantly, all this is accomplished with a strong commitment to those protections that have and will continue to ensure seniors' health and well-being for years to come.

Despite my support for much of what is contained in the administration's proposal there are some areas which I feel warrant change and further negotiation. One area in particular concerns the future of the Senior Community Services Employment Program [SCSEP]. While the administration would transfer the SCSEP to the Administration on Aging, the legislation I introduce today retains the program within the Department of Labor. While in principle and practice I have previously supported various proposals to consolidate and coordinate related Federal programs and services, the fact that the SCSEP is fundamentally an employment program compels me to support maintaining the program within the Labor Department.

As take up the Older Americans Act reauthorization again this year, I look forward to working with the administration and my colleagues on both sides of this aisle to fashion bipartisan legislation that continues to protect our Nation's seniors.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE
REPUBLIC OF CHINA

HON. ROBERT SMITH

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 1997

Mr. SMITH of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, on the occasion of President Lee Teng-hui's first anniversary in office, I wish to make a few remarks.

President Lee is the first democratically elected head of state in China's history. He is a man committed to preserving political freedom for his 23 million fellow citizens.

President Lee is also committed to economic growth. In the last year Taiwan has maintained its economic expansion and its position as a major trading partner of the United States. Many of our agricultural products find ready markets in Taiwan.

On behalf of my constituents, I send my best wishes and congratulations to President Lee Teng-hui, Dr. Jason Hu, Taiwan's top representative in Washington, and the people of Taiwan as they celebrate May 20, 1997, the first anniversary of President Lee's first term in office.

TRIBUTE TO THE TOWN OF
JOHNSTON

HON. LINDSEY O. GRAHAM

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 1997

Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. Speaker, the rich heritage of the town of Johnston, SC, began during the Colonial days with three families: The Lott family to the east, the Gomillion family to the south, and the Bush family on land that is in the present town center. Before the Revolutionary War, a gentleman by the name of Richard Bush accumulated land in the area. In the mid-19th century, his descendant, Isaac Bush, sold 1,200 acres of land to Dr. Edward J. Mims of the nearby town of Edgefield. Dr. Mims and his family moved onto this newly acquired land which is the original townsite of Johnston.

The name of the town was not established until its inhabitants saw the rapid expansion of the railroad throughout the South. Dr. Mims was determined to include his community in the booming opportunity the railroad provided. He successfully petitioned William Johnston, president of the Charlotte, Columbia, and Augusta Railroad, to route the railway through the land on the Mims plantation. In return, Dr. Mims agreed to name the town for Mr. Johnston. Earlier the village was called Johnston Station, then Johnston's Turn Out, and finally, on May 25, 1897, it was chartered as its present name, Johnston.

Today, Johnston, known as the Peach Capital of the World celebrates the centennial of its charter. The Johnston Historic District, a collection of 146 houses, businesses, and churches dating from the 1870's to the 1920's is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. From the 1870's Johnston had a renowned educational institution, first called the Johnston Academy, then the Johnston Institute, and later Johnston High School. The town of Johnston remains proud of its history and maintains its early emphasis on agriculture and education. However, the town also has a strong present and future with state-of-the-art manufacturing technology in its many textile mills. With firm roots and forward progress, Johnston will continue to prosper well into the 21st century.

KEEP THE PROMISE

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 1997

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, we all remember the promise President Clinton made to end welfare as we know it.

But when given a chance to do so, in the form of a sound program by Texas Governor Bush, the President did everything possible to scuttle the plan. The plan would have meant a savings in welfare administration costs of 20 to 35 percent for the people of Texas.

This is not the first promise this administration has broken. I suggest members read the Wall Street Journal editorial in today's RECORD as a reminder:

[From the Wall Street Journal]

CLINTON PROMISES

Trying to provide better health care coverage for some 150,000 needy children, Texas